

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) ~~Complex~~ A complex matrix,  
~~constituted by comprising:~~ at least one biocompatible polymer of  
natural origin, cross linked with a cross linking agent of a bi-  
or polyfunctional molecule selected from the group consisting of  
epoxydes, epihalohydrines and divinylsulfone and ~~on which are~~  
wherein said polymer has grafted chains ~~[[of]]~~ having a molecular  
weight less than 50,000 Da, selected from polymers of natural  
origin of small size, ~~preferably cellulosic derivatives or other~~  
~~derivatives of biopolymers not naturally present in the human~~  
~~body~~ and/or non-polymeric chains having antioxidant properties or  
properties for inhibiting reactions of degradation of said  
matrix, ~~preferably vitamins, enzymes or molecules comprising one~~  
~~or several cycles, and with a~~

wherein the quantity of grafting~~[[,]]~~ is defined as  
being the ratio between the number of moles of grafted molecules  
and the number of moles of units of the polymer, from 10 to 40%.

13. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to  
claim 12, ~~in which~~ wherein the biocompatible polymer of natural

origin is selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitine sulfate, keratane, keratane sulfate, heparin, heparin sulfate, cellulose and its derivatives, xanthanes, [[and]] alginates, proteins, [[or]] and nucleic acid.

14. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 12, ~~in which~~ wherein the biocompatible polymer of natural origin is a polymer not naturally present in the human body ~~such as a~~ and selected from the group consisting of a cellulosic derivative, a xanthane, and [[or]] an alginate, which is cross linked with at least one polymer naturally present in the human body selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitine sulfate, keratane, keratane sulfate, heparin, heparane sulfate, xanthanes, [[and]] alginates, proteins [[or]] and nucleic acids.

15. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 12, ~~in which~~ wherein the amount of cross linkage, defined as the ratio between the number of moles of the cross linking agent ensuring the linking of the polymer chains and the number of moles of units of the polymer, is comprised between 0.5 and 50%, ~~in particular between 0.5 and 25%~~ in the case of injectable products, and between 25 and 50% in the case of solid products.

16. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 12, containing antioxidant agents, vitamins and other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

17. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 12, containing vitamins or other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

18. (previously presented) A method to separate, replace, fill or supplement a biological fluid or tissues comprising a step of applying an effective amount of a matrix according to claim 12.

19. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process for the preparation of a partly biodegradable biocompatible matrix constituted by at least one polymer of natural origin, characterized in that it ~~consists in~~ comprises:

- ~~on the one hand~~ grafting small chains of molecular weight lower than 50,000 Da with an amount of grafting of 10 to 40%, the small chains being selected from polymers of natural origin of small size, ~~preferably cellulosic derivatives or derivatives of other biopolymers not naturally present in the human body~~ and/or unpolymerized chains having antioxidant properties or properties of inhibiting reactions of degradation

of said matrix, ~~preferably vitamins, enzymes and molecules comprising one or several units, or~~

- ~~on the other hand~~ cross linking the principal chains of the polymer to create a homogeneous matrix, with the help of a cross linking agent which is a bi- or polyfunctional molecule selected from epoxydes, epihalohydrines or divinylsulfone.

20. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 13, ~~in which~~ wherein the biocompatible polymer of natural origin is a polymer not naturally present in the human body ~~such as a~~ selected from the group consisting of cellulosic derivative, a xanthane [[or]] and an alginate, which is cross linked with at least one polymer naturally present in the human body selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitine sulfate, keratane, keratane sulfate, heparin, heparane sulfate, xanthenes, [[and]] alginates, proteins, and [[or]] nucleic acids.

21. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 13, ~~in which~~ wherein the amount of cross linkage, defined as the ratio between the number of moles of the cross linking agent ensuring the linking of the polymer chains and the number of moles of units of the polymer, is comprised between 0.5 and 50%, ~~in particular between 0.5 and 25%~~ in the case of injectable products, and between 25 and 50% in the case of solid products.

22. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 14, ~~in which~~ wherein the amount of cross linkage, defined as the ratio between the number of moles of the cross linking agent ensuring the linking of the polymer chains and the number of moles of units of the polymer, is comprised between 0.5 and 50%, ~~in particular between 0.5 and 25%~~ in the case of injectable products, and between 25 and 50% in the case of solid products.

23. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 13, containing antioxidant agents, vitamins and other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

24. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 14, containing antioxidant agents, vitamins and other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

25. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 15, containing antioxidant agents, vitamins and other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

26. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 13, containing vitamins or other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

27. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 14, containing vitamins or other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

28. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 15, containing vitamins or other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

29. (currently amended) ~~Matrix~~ The matrix according to claim 16, containing vitamins or other dispersed pharmacologically active agents.

30. (previously presented) A method to separate, replace, fill or supplement a biological fluid or tissues comprising a step of applying an effective amount of a matrix according to claim 13.

31. (previously presented) A method to separate, replace, fill or supplement a biological fluid or tissues comprising a step of applying an effective amount of a matrix according to claim 14.